

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

DATE 8/22/03 LABEL NO. 20306629526 US  
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT, ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE  
THIS PAPER OR FEE WAS DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE  
& THAT IT WAS ADDRESSED FOR DELIVERY TO THE COMMISSIONER  
FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 BY EXPRESS  
MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE SERVICE.  
D. Davis D. Davis  
NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE

PLEASE CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY UP TO \$300.00 OR  
CREDIT ANY EXCESS IN THE FEES DUE WITH THIS  
DOCUMENT TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 04-0100

Customer No.: 07278

Docket No.: 4970/1M014US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Kuniaki TAKAMATSU ET AL.

Serial No: N/A

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Examiner: N/A

For: WATER PURIFYING APPARATUS  
-----

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In order to comply with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy  
of Form PTO-1449 and copies<sup>1</sup> of the documents listed thereon. These documents

---

<sup>1</sup> If a listed document is not in the English language and an English translation is readily available, such translation is also enclosed and attached to the copy of the document. If a translation is not attached, it is not readily available to the undersigned. If a foreign language patent document is cited, and an English language equivalent is known to the undersigned, then the English equivalent patent is also listed on the enclosed form along with the corresponding foreign language

contain information which the Examiner should consider during examination of the present application.

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that each document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is not repeated on the attached Form PTO-1449) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

The relevance of Japanese Patent Applications Nos. 2001-246389 and H11-87086 to the present application is discussed in the specification at Pages 2 and 13. The relevance of Japanese Patent No. 2896762 to the present application is discussed in the specification at Page 14, thus conforming to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3).

The relevance of the Japanese Publication No. 10-005767 (now Japanese Patent No. 3079359) as presently understood by the individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) who is the most knowledgeable about the content thereof, is that it discloses a purifying device comprising a glass container which contains

---

patent and a connecting arrow indicates the relationship between them. If no such English language equivalent is cited, then none is known to the undersigned.

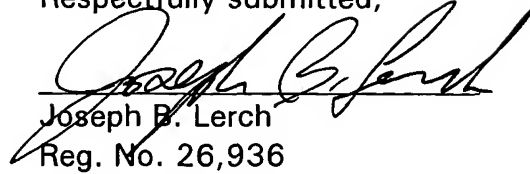
negatively charged grains of material, such as Si, SiO<sub>x</sub> ( $0 < x \leq 2$ ), minerals, Al, P, Ge, Sn, Pb, Ni and Fe. However, the present invention discloses a water purifying apparatus comprising a driving unit for causing the glass container to vibrate or to rotate around an axis thereof, which is not disclosed in Japanese Publication No. 10-005767. The vibration or rotation of the glass container realizes a water purifying apparatus which can purify water at a high speed.

Also enclosed are English language abstracts for Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-246389 and Japanese Publication No. 10-005767. These were submitted because the applicants had them available. No representation is intended that the abstracts are the most relevant portions of these documents or that other portions may not be more relevant.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56, but the citation of such document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) and, in the course of each search, will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph B. Lerch", is written over a horizontal line.

Joseph B. Lerch

Reg. No. 26,936

Attorney For Applicant(s)

DARBY & DARBY P.C.  
P.O. Box 5257  
New York, NY 10150-5257  
(212) 527-7700

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Kuniaki Takamatsu
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	4970/1M014US1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	BA	JP-11-87086-A1		03-30-1999			
	BB	JP-2896762-B2		03-12-1999			
	BC	JP-10-005767-A1		01-13-1998	Kuniaki Takamatsu et al.		
	BD	JP-2001-246389-A1		09-11-2001	Kuniaki Takamatsu et al.		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

{M:\497 011m01	Date Considered	
-------------------	--------------------	--